

Minutes, Delaware Health Fund Advisory Committee

Monday, October 15, 2012

**Attendance:**

Rita Landgraf, Chair

Senator Patricia Blevins

Senator David McBride

Dr. Charles Reinhardt

Representative Michael Barbieri

Representative Edward Osienski

Senator Bethany Hall-Long

Bettina Riveros

Dr. Gregory Bahtiarian

Paula Roy

**Absent:**

Don Fulton

**I. Welcome and Introductions**

The meeting began at approximately 1:06 pm

**II. Minutes**

The minutes of the October 1st, 2012 meeting were initially approved with no changes but after public comment, these minutes were approved with one change reflected below as underlined.

“A motion was made and seconded (Blevins/McBride) that the CFF application is an existing program and eligible to be considered for funding in FY14 and that using the FY 13 appropriation for the Nurse Family Partnership is permissible.”

**III. Overview of Materials**

The following spreadsheets were distributed as well as a Narrative that explained scenarios more fully:

- ❖ Scenario #15-1 – Across the board cuts equal to the anticipated annual funding.

- ❖ Scenario #15-1A – Remove the Workforce Development requests and then apply across the board cuts equal to the anticipated annual funding.
- ❖ Scenario #15-2 – Across the board cuts to applicants, excluding those with requests equal to or less than \$200.0, equal to the anticipated annual funding.
- ❖ Scenario #15-2A – Remove the Workforce Development applicants and then apply across the board cuts to remaining applicants, excluding those with requests equal to or less than \$200.0 (*see above list under Scenario #15-2 and below bullet for the applicants removed from list for this specific scenario*), equal to the anticipated annual funding.
- ❖ Scenario #15-3 (No Handout) – It was discussed looking at exempting programs from across the board cuts that asked for less than they received during FY '13. In reviewing the requests there were only three programs that met this requirement.
- ❖ Scenario #15-4 – Across the board cuts to applicants, excluding the Mandates, equal to the anticipated annual funding.
- ❖ Scenario #15-4A – Remove the Workforce Development applicants and then apply across the board cuts to remaining applicants, excluding the Mandates, equal to the anticipated annual funding.
- ❖ Scenario #15-5 – Across the board cuts to applicants, excluding the Mandates, using the anticipated annual funding plus all of the Reserve balance if needed.
- ❖ Scenario #15-5A – Remove the Workforce Development applicants and then apply across the board cuts to remaining applicants, excluding the Mandates, using the anticipated annual funding plus all of the Reserve balance if needed.
- ❖ Scenario #15-6 – Across the board cuts to all applicants, using the annual funding plus the Reserve balance.

#### **IV. Discussions of Recommendations**

A motion was approved (Hall-Long/McBride) to look at options 15-5, 15-5A, & 15-6 that use the reserve.

Dr. Reinhardt asked if mandates can get less funding than they request because he was concerned basing recommendations on a suggestion that cannot happen. The Committee remarked that all of their recommendations are advisory so certainly these reductions would be in the realm of what can be suggested.

A motion was made and seconded (Reinhardt/McBride) to adopt scenario 15-6 as the recommendation, using the reserve and applying an across the board cut across all applicants.

HFAC then discussed: 15-5 preserves the mandates and reviewed the page with mandated programs; concerns were expressed about people losing jobs; the general question was presented that should HFAC's role be mathematical or more general – recommending across the board cuts generally rather than specific dollar amounts; next year without the reserve there will be less interest; the HCR 55 Study Group will help going forward.

A friendly amendment was presented by Sen. Blevins to create what was labeled scenario 15-6A which added back in the Medicaid programs as fully funded and applied an across the board cut across all applicants. This scenario was created at the meeting and was expected to result in a 5.5% - 5.7% cut to programs (except Medicaid). [When the cut was applied after the meeting, it resulted in a 5.37% - 6%, when cuts were rounded to the nearest hundred]. This Motion was passed, Dr. Bahtiarian abstained, all other votes yes.

## **V. Procedures and Future Meetings**

As recommendations had been decided, no additional meetings are necessary. The draft recommendation memo will be circulated to HFAC members as has been done in the past.

## **VI. Other Business**

Rep. Barbieri suggested information be sent to HFAC applicants advising them to expect a different process next year.

Sen. McBride thanked staff for the great job on the materials and said how the information was presented was very helpful.

## **VII. Public Comment**

Leslie Newman from CFF asked to clarify if at the October 1, 2012 meeting the HFAC had approved the use of current year funding for the Nurse Family Partnership. A motion was made, seconded, and approved to amend the minutes to reflect that HFAC has in fact done that.

Cheryl Heiks sought to confirm that there was no exemption from the reductions for allocations under \$200,000.

Someone who did not identify herself thanked HFAC for keeping workforce programs recommended for funding as not doing so would cost jobs.

Janet Teixeira asked about the amount of a reduction next year's applications should contain, was that 5% or more because there will no longer be a reserve. HFAC members replied that applicants will be provided this information in the application next year since it is too soon to know the answer, especially given the work of the HCR 55 Health Fund Study Group and that the actual allocations may change in the budget process.

## **VIII. Next Public Hearings:**

The November 9, 2012 meeting is cancelled as it is no longer necessary. Future meetings will be determined next summer or fall.

## **IX. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at approximately 2:15 pm.